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NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

The Washington agent of the New York Associated Press, sends to the Northern papers the following, from the Richmond Enquirer of the 11th:

VIRGINIA.

HEADQUARTERS MOUNTAIN TOP, June 8th, 11 P. M.—Crook and Averill joined Hunter to day at Staunton. A portion of their forces are east on the Greenville and Middlebrook road. Five hundred cavalry made a demonstration at 3 P. M. on Waynesboro', on the Greenville and Staunton road, and were repulsed by Gen. Imboden. The enemy retreated to Staunton, burning Fisherville depot.—Pope, with a force of four thousand strong, is moving on down the Valley to reinforce Gen. Hunter. The enemy have no supplies, but subsist on the country. Our troops are in fine spirits and an advance is anticipated tomorrow.

MOUNTAIN TOP, June 9.—The enemy advanced again to day with cavalry, and were driven back by Imboden's infantry.

The Enquirer has an account of a raid on Petersburg by Kantz. It says: "The enemy crept up behind the residence of Wm. A. Gregory, ascended to the roof, and knocking off the shingles, were enabled not only to obtain an excellent view and ascertain the number of our forces, but through the opening fired upon and killed many of our men behind the breastworks. The residence of Timothy Rives fell into the hands of the enemy, and Mr. Rives was taken prisoner. They were almost in Petersburg, and could see its spires and steeples and many of the houses of the suburban limits, but again that Divine arm, which has so often been outstretched in our behalf, was bared, and our city was saved from the tread of the ruthless invader.

"Just at this opportune moment Graham's Battery reached the Reservoir Hill, unlimbered in an instant, and with a precision and rapidity which we have heard spoken of as being almost without precedent, threw into the ranks of the enemy a shower of shell. The advance on the city was on Jerusalem plank road, coming into Petersburg from a southerly direction. At 8 o'clock the court house and engine bells rang, and the citizens responded immediately, and manifested every disposition to defend their homes and firesides. Our breastworks on Jerusalem road extended from the residence of Timothy Rives, on the left, to and across the road, and beyond the house of Wm. Gregory, on the right. The enemy manoeuvred for a while, thinking that our raw troops would abandon their position without fight; but never were Yankees more mistaken. Our men, under General Coulson and Col. S. H. Arthur, stood their ground like veterans, and finally the enemy charged, and came down to our breastworks with a savage yell.

"When within forty paces of the fortifications the order to fire was given, and the Yankees fell back. A prisoner captured reported that the notorious Spears led them. The enemy again came up, and with our one hundred and seventy men, all told, it was impossible to guard the centre, right and left, and the order to retreat was given, and in a few minutes the enemy had possession of our works, and many of Petersburg's best and gallant sons fell in the fray, some killed and some wounded. Rev. Wm. A. Hall, chaplain of the Washington Artillery, was captured."

ARKANSAS.

MOBILE, June 9.—The operator at Brandon, June 8th reports on the authority of Col. Shad, from Shreveport, the following official from Camden, Arkansas, under date of May 27th. On the 24th Marmaduke engaged the enemy's fleet near Gaines's Landing.—Capt. Jacobs boarded and captured the transport Lebanon. Pratt's Battery did excellent service, crippling one gunboat seriously. The whole Federal fleet was repulsed and driven down the river. Price is reported to be at Camden and Taylor below Alexandria. General Steele occupied Little Rock and Pine Bluff.

MOBILE, June 10.—A special dispatch to the Register, dated Senatobia, June 9, says that Canby has been appointed division commander, and that Banks, Steele and Rosecranz retain their respective commands.

Mower is reported to have defeated Polignac, on the 18th ult., on Yellow Bayou.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, June 10.—The enemy was developed in force yesterday in our front, at Ackworth, and on our extreme right, east of the railroad, toward Roseville. There was partial skirmishing in the afternoon in front of Hood's corps. Prisoners report the bridge rebuilt by the Yankees, and the trains are running to Ackworth. Sherman avoids any effort to bring on a general engagement out of his breastworks. The Yankees say that he has orders not to risk a general engagement.

The Washington Star of yesterday evening purports to give extracts from Richmond papers of the 13th. Hunter is said to have entered Lexington on the 11th. His force is estimated at sixteen thousand men. Crook is represented to have reached Amherst Court House, within twelve miles of Lynchburg, and to have destroyed the bridge over Tye River.—Date not given.

According to the Star, the Richmond Dispatch of Saturday last states that on the Wednesday previous, the 8th inst., Crook and Averill were with Hunter at Staunton, and that on the same day five hundred Federal cavalry made a demonstration on the Greenville and Staunton road, and were repulsed by Imboden. The following day they again attempted to advance and Imboden again repulsed them. General McCausland is said to be in command of the Confederate troops opposed to Hunter, and Lynchburg is defended by a much larger force, aided by militia, than was supposed to be there.

On Thursday of last week, Sheridan, encamped at New Market, some ten miles south of Spottsylvania Court House. At that time, Hampton's cavalry were between Sheridan and Gordonsville. The entire force under Sheridan is estimated at eight thousand men, with ten pieces of artillery. A rumor was current in Richmond last week that Hampton had surprised Sheridan's camp and put him to rout, but the story lacked confirmation. It was subsequently reported that Sheridan, in attempting to reach the locks of the James River Canal, was encountered by Hampton's cavalry and successfully repulsed.

It is reported that a sale of the Georgia has been effected at Liverpool.

GRANT'S NEW BASE.

[From the National Intelligencer.]

We do not see in the position just retaken by the Army of the Potomac any extraordinary tribute to the military genius of either Gen. McClellan or Gen. Grant; for where the physical conformation of the country so strongly points to the rivers of the Virginia peninsula as the predestined approaches to Richmond in any campaign making that capital the objective point of attack, it is only a matter of surprise that their advantage should have been persistently ignored throughout two long and painful years of war, and that in resuming these advantages, our present military authorities should have selected such a tedious and costly route by which to reach them.—When Gen. Grant while on the line of his overland route from Fredericksburg to Richmond, wrote to the Secretary of War, "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes me all summer," we have little doubt it was then his deliberate intention to do so, but it is seen that subsequent considerations of military expediency or necessity have proved stronger than this resolve of the tenacious commander.

It would be very absurd to say that Gen. Grant selected the line of the James river as his new base in order to pay a compliment to the military strategy of Gen. McClellan who had previously adopted the same line. Baron Jomini in his Life of Napoleon forcibly remarks on the confusion of ideas betrayed by those military grammarians, who imagine themselves to see in Napoleon's selection of the harbor of Boulogne, as the point from which to make his meditated descent on England, an imitation of the military strategy of Cæsar, who had selected the same port as his point of departure when, more than eighteen hundred years before he had proceeded to effect a landing from the Continent on that island. The opportunity of the port for this purpose as determined by its physical configuration and its geographical relation to the British shores, would have influenced the mind of Napoleon to make choice of it, if Cæsar had never been born. Caligula, for the same reason, selected the same port for the same object, when, early in the Christian era, he planned an expedition against Britain. But what would the world have thought of Napoleon's military perspicacity in the adaptation of means to ends, if from the blinding force of vanity or prejudice he had stubbornly refused to acknowledge the topographical and other advantages of Boulogne for making a descent from the French on the British coast because that point had been previously occupied by Cæsar, from an unwillingness to take up any line of movement which might seem to confirm in a single instance the military judgment of his illustrious predecessor?

The Richmond Dispatch of the 9th instant says:—"The trial of Mrs. Allan, indicted for treasonable correspondence with the enemy, which was set for this month, before Judge Halyburton, of the Confederate States District Court, has been postponed till the tenth day of July. Mrs. Allan was present in court yesterday, and entered into bonds in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, with her husband as surety, for her appearance at the time set for trial."